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General Baptist Convention

AND

Central Baptist Association,

OF CALIFORNIA.

1881.

MINUTES

OF

GENERAL BAPTIST CONVENTION

OF

CALIFORNIA,

HELD AT

DIXON, MAY 11TH AND 12TH, 1881,

AND

STOCKTON, OCTOBER 4TH, 1881.

REV. S. B. MORSE, President, - - East Oakland.
E. R. POPE, Secretary, 434 California Street, San Francisco.
B. C. WRIGHT, Treasurer, 1703 Gough St., San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO:
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RULES RESPECTING APPROPRIATIONS.

RULE I. Each Church receiving aid from the Convention, must have a pastor or the regular service of some minister, whose salary or compensation it holds itself responsible for and promptly pays, according to the terms of agreement.

RULE II. Each Church seeking aid, must make a written request to the Executive Committee of the Board, containing definite information on the following points: —the amount of aid desired,—the number in the Church, male and female,—number of congregation,—the amount of property in the Church and in the Congregation,—the name of the pastor or minister, and amount of his salary or compensation, with the conditions and manner of its being raised and paid,—and other things essential to a full and fair view of the condition and prospects of the Church.

RULE III. Essential to a continuance of aid, is a quarterly report to the Executive Committee of the Board, touching the following points:—the general state of religious interest,—the character of attendance on public worship and on the prayer meetings,—the number of additions to the Church,—the changes in the congregation,—the amount of benevolent contributions,—what missionary work has been done outside of the regular Sabbath congregations,—and other things essential to a fair and full view of the condition of the Church.

RULE IV. No appropriation will be made to a Church for the payment of arrearages of pastor's salary, or any other debts contracted previous to the application of said Church for aid from the Convention.

RULE V. Every Church receiving aid must show, as a condition of the same being continued, that it contributes as it is able to the treasury of the Convention.

RULE VI. Churches receiving aid are requested to adopt the envelope system of weekly collections for raising money to meet the expenses of worship.

All applications for assistance, and letters of inquiry; also reports from Churches and Missionaries, should be addressed to the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Convention.

Remittances of money, and whatever relates to the finances of the Board, must be made to Mr. B. C. Wright, Treasurer, 1703 Gough Street, San Francisco.

CONSTITUTION.

Article I. Delegates annually chosen by regular Baptist Churches, Associations and Auxiliary societies in the State of California, shall constitute this organization, to be known as the *General Baptist Convention of California.*

Art. II. The object of this Convention shall be, first, to promote the preaching of the gospel and the establishment of Baptist Churches in California; second, to develop and foster Sunday School work; third, to enlist Baptist Churches and Sunday Schools alike in Home Mission, Foreign Mission and Publication Society work; fourth, to encourage the common educational interests of the Baptist denomination in the State; fifth, to promote denominational acquaintance, fellowship and growth.

Art. III. This Convention shall meet annually on Wednesday evening after the first Sunday in May, or at such other time as it may direct. Its President, however, shall have power upon the written request of not less than ten members of the Board to alter the time or place of the annual meeting.

Art. IV. Any contributing Baptist Church to the treasury of this Convention may send three delegates; having one hundred members or over, four delegates; having two hundred members or over, five delegates. These numbers in each instance shall include the pastor or acting pastor. No church shall exceed this last number.

Art. V. Any person contributing twenty-five ($25) dollars to the treasury of this Convention shall be a life member, with full freedom to all its deliberations, the right to vote only excepted; and any person contributing one hundred ($100) dollars shall be an Honorary Life Director of the Board of Managers, with full freedom to its deliberations, the right to vote only excepted.

Art. VI. The officers of this Convention shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Recording Secretary, a Statistical Secretary, a Treasurer and Auditor. There shall likewise be twenty-seven Directors, one-third of whom, after the first election, shall be elected annually. These officers and Directors shall constitute the Board of Managers, of which the President shall be *ex-officio* the Chairman, and the Recording Secretary the Clerk. All elections shall be by ballot. At the first election of Directors they shall be chosen in classes, the term of the first to expire at the time of the annual meeting, May, 1882; the second, May, 1883; the third in May, 1884. One-third of the Directors shall be laymen. Nine of the Board of Managers shall be a quorum. The Board shall have power to fill all vacancies, to hold office until the next annual election.

Art. VII. The Board shall meet immediately on the adjournment of the Convention, and appoint from its number an Executive Committee of seven, who shall have charge of the missionary work of the Convention, appoint and commission all missionaries and appropriate all money. One of its number shall represent the northern and one the southern part of the State. Five shall be elected with reference to facility for business. A semi-annual meeting of the Board shall be held as it shall direct. It shall hold a meeting as early in the day as possible, preliminary to the Anniversary, to listen to the report of the Executive Committee and act thereon, a duplicate of which in writing shall be presented to the annual meeting, and thereafter published in the minutes.

Art. VIII. The Executive Committee shall appoint committees, from the ministry and laity of the State, of three members each, upon Home Mission, Foreign Mission, Publication Society, Sunday School and Educational work, whose duty it shall be to attend to the interests of each of these departments of denominational life in California, to awaken sentiment, to stimulate benevolence, to collect facts as the Executive Committee may require, and to present a careful report of their work to the annual meeting.

Art. IX. Local Baptist Associations of the State are urged

to become auxiliaries to the General Convention; each by the appointment of a Missionary Committee to co-operate with the Executive Committee of the Convention in State work. Associations so co-operating may appoint three delegates to the Convention. Recommendation by these Associations of any man to represent their field shall be duly considered in the annual election of the Board of Managers.

Art. X. Any Baptist organizations in California honored by the Convention in their religious and educ tional work may hold organic relation to it by the appointment of one delegate for every such organization, and provision shall be made for the consideration of the claims of such organizations at the annual meeting.

Art. XI. This Convention will co-operate with all our National Baptist Societies.

Art. XII. This Constitution may be altered or amended by a three-fourths vote of all delegates present, notice of such change having been given at the previous annual meeting and published in the minutes. Such alteration and amendment may be made at any annual meeting, on the unanimous recommendation of the Board, and adoption by a three-fourths vote.

BY-LAWS.

I. An half-hour devotional meeting shall precede each evening and morning session.

II. After singing and prayer the President shall appoint a Committee of Arrangements, a Committee on the Roll, and a Committee for the Nomination of officers.

III. The letter or address of entertaining church shall then be received.

IV. After the annual sermon or address the annual collection for State work shall be taken.

V. Following a report from the Enrollment Committee, the report from the Committee on the Nomination of Officers shall be made, and the organization of the Convention effected.

VI. The annual report of the Board shall be read, and addresses pending its adoption shall be made.

VII. Further committees shall be appointed by the President—

First. On Important Subjects of the Report.
Second. On the Nomination of Directors.
Third. On Place and Appointments for Next Session.
Fourth. On Obituaries.

VIII. The roll of delegates shall be called if desired by any three of their number.

IX. Motions, if requested, shall be made in writing, and if lost shall not be published in the minutes, unless ordered by the Convention; if a member oppose the discussion of any motion or resolution, the President shall put the question, "Shall this question or resolution be discussed?" and the majority shall determine without debate.

X. All differences of opinion shall be treated with due consideration, patience and love. All personal reflection shall be avoided. Appeals from the decision of the Chair may be made, in which case the appeal shall be decided without debate.

XI. The Recording Secretary may appoint an assistant at his pleasure. He shall call all meetings, and keep account of the doings of the Convention and of the Board of Managers.

XII. The Statistical Secretary shall prepare, as best he may by correspondence with clerks of churches and of Associations, an itemized account of their religious and material prosperity, and tabulate the same by Associations in the Minutes.

XIII. The Treasurer shall have charge of all the money of the Convention, and make disbursements on the order of the President and Secretary of the Board.

XIV. State work shall have special but not exclusive claims to consideration in this Convention. The reports of not more than fifteen minutes in length as a rule, of the Special Committees appointed by the Executive Committee, shall be followed by addresses and discussions. These reports and discussions, being of immediate practical relations to denominational life and work, shall have preference to sermons in the programme of arrangements.

XV. These Committees on Sunday School, Education, Publication Society, Home and Foreign Missions, are provisionally appointed a year in advance that they may faithfully superintend the interests of their departments, and go up to the annual meeting with reports on the same for the consideration of all Baptists in the State.

XVI. Any Baptist Church in California or Nevada, holding the general faith and practice of the denomination, may become by a vote of three-fourths of the delegates at any annual meeting a member of this Convention; provided that if before the motion is put, any two churches of the Convention, by their delegates, oppose such application, the same shall first be referred to an impartial committee with instructions to report at the order of the Convention.

XVII. Before the adjournment of the Convention, provision shall be made for the publishing of the minutes, inclusive of the Church, Sunday School, Associational and Benevolent statistics of the denomination.

XVIII. These By-Laws may be altered or amended in the same manner as provided for in the Constitution.

MINUTES

OF THE

General Baptist Convention of California.

FIRST DAY.

DIXON, May 11, 1881, 9 P. M.

Meeting of delegates from Baptist Churches of the State of California held in the Presbyterian Church, for the purpose of organizing a new State Convention, in pursuance of the following declaration read in the California Baptist Convention:

"We, the undersigned, representatives of the following churches, recognizing the fact that our convictions of what constitutes the purity and efficiency of Christian life and work, not only among our churches, but among our ministry, are so radically opposed to those which are entertained by a large element composing this body; and recognizing the fact that it is impossible for us to harmonize these convictions, we do hereby call upon those who are in sympathy with us to withdraw and organize a new and separate convention, that shall be in harmony with the general sentiment of our denomination throughout the country:"

Rev. W. M. Kincaid, Pastor of the First Baptist Church, San Francisco; C. M. P. Reeves, B. W. Owens, P. U. Blunt, John F. Pope, Benj. C. Wright, Donald Ferguson, Edward R. Bromley, E. R. Pope, Mrs. O. J. McKinnon, Mrs. B. R. Boynton, Mrs. C. Redell, Mrs. Sally Wilson, Mrs. P. U. Blunt, Mrs. W. H. Barnes, Mrs. Elizabeth A. Wright and Mrs. B. W. Owens.

Rev. G. S. Abbott, Pastor First Baptist Church, Oakland;

Mrs. G. S. Abbott, J. L. Lyon, James Dalziel, John J. Stewart, Mrs. J. R. Bradway, Mrs. Isabella Hughes, A. H. Pratt, Mrs. A. H. Pratt, Miss Ella Dearborn, Mrs. C. Dam and H. S. Smith.

Rev. J. B. Hartwell, Pastor First Chinese Baptist Church of San Francisco; Wong Kwai Hong, Yi Chung Shen and Wong Yu Han.

Rev. George R. Read, Pastor of the Alameda Church; Charles M. Hutchinson and Mrs. F. Taylor.

Rev. C. W. Hewes, Pastor of Fifth Baptist Church, San Francisco; L. L. Brown, Mrs. L. L. Brown, John L. Merguire, E. A. Merguire and J G. Levensaler.

Rev. E. H. Gray, Pastor Vallejo Baptist Church; A. McKinnon, J. C. Voorhees, Mrs. E H. Gray, Mrs. P. E. Jefferis and Miss Eunice Hobbs.

Rev. S. B. Morse, Pastor Brooklyn Baptist Church, and E. H. Lenox.

Rev. W. T. Fleenor, Pastor Stockton First Baptist Church; T. K. Hook, Mrs. A. C. Hook, Mrs. W. T. Fleenor, Mrs. C. R. Ralph, Mrs. A. M. Rowe, Miss Julia Baldwin and E. R. Stockwell.

Rev. J. Q. A. Henry, Pastor Calvary Baptist Church, Sacramento; G. O. Hayford, W. R. Strong and Deacon Darius Pierce.

Trinity Church of Oakland—Mrs. J. R. Lowell.

Modesto—Mrs. W. G. Buckner, Mrs. P. P. Stiles.

Wheatland—Rev. J. S. Jesse.

Virginia City, Nev.—Rev. H. W. Read.

On motion, Rev. S. B. Morse, of East Oakland, was chosen temporary President, and Rev. W. M. Kincaid, of San Francisco, temporary Secretary.

Ten minutes were spent in devotional exercises.

Moved by Rev. G. S. Abbott, D. D., and seconded, that the meeting form itself into a Convention, to be known as "THE GENERAL BAPTIST CONVENTION OF CALIFORNIA." Carried.

On motion, Rev. S. B. Morse was chosen President, E. R. Pope, Secretary, and B. C. Wright, Treasurer.

Moved and seconded that a committee of five be appointed by the President to draft constitution and by-laws. Carried.

The following were appointed as such committee: Rev. G. S. Abbott, D. D., Rev. W. T. Fleenor, Rev. J. Q. A. Henry, Bros. E. R. Stockwell and J. L. Merguire.

Moved and seconded that Committee on Enrollment be appointed. Carried.

The President appointed as such committee—Rev. G. R. Read, C. M Hutchinson and E. R. Bromley.

Moved and seconded that the declaration read in the California Baptist Convention be spread on the Minutes as the basis and ground of the action taken by this body, and that the same be published in our denominational papers, and in the secular papers of the cities of Dixon, Sacramento and San Francisco. Carried.

Moved and seconded that Committee on Arrangements be appointed. Carried.

The President appointed as such Committee — Rev. E. H. Gray, D. D., Rev. W. M. Kincaid, Rev. H. W. Read, Deacon W. R. Strong and E. H. Lenox.

Moved and seconded that a telegram be sent to the Home Mission Society in New York, informing it of our action. Carried.

Moved by Rev. W. M. Kincaid, and seconded, that our most hearty thanks be extended to the Dixon Baptist Church for their cordial hospitality. Carried unanimously by a rising vote.

The Committee on Arrangements reported as follows for the order of business on Thursday, May 13th:

At 9 A. M.—Devotional Exercises, conducted by Rev. W. T. Fleenor.

At 10 A. M.—Discussion on Mission Relations coming within the bounds of this Convention.

At 11 A. M.—Reports of Committees, and other business that may legitimately come before this Convention.

Moved to adjourn after prayer to meet to-morrow (Thursday), at 9 A. M. Carried.

Closing Prayer by Rev. G. S. Abbott, D. D.

SECOND DAY.

THURSDAY, May 12, 1881, 9 A. M.

Devotional Exercises led by Rev. W. T. Fleenor. Scripture read, portion of fifty-first Psalm.

Convention convened for business at ten o'clock. Rev. S. B. Morse, the President, in the Chair.

Prayer by Deacon P. U. Blunt of the First Baptist Church, San Francisco.

The President announced the following Committees:

STATE WORK—Rev. G. S. Abbott, D. D., Rev. J. S. Jesse, Rev. C. W. Hewes, Deacon W. R. Strong, J. L. Lyon.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—Rev. J. Q. A. Henry, Rev. H. W. Read, Rev. M. D. Gage, Dea. E. R. Stockwell, Dea. J. L. Merguire.

CHINESE—Rev. J. B. Hartwell, D. D., Rev. G. S. Abbott, D. D., Rev. S. B. Morse, J. F. Pope, J. C. Voorhees.

EDUCATION—Rev. E. H. Gray, D. D., Rev. W. M. Kincaid, Rev. S. B. Morse, E. R. Bromley, J. G. Levensaler.

Woman's Home Mission—Rev. W. T. Fleenor, Mrs. E. H. Gray, Mrs. T. K. Hook, Mrs. S. B. Morse, Mrs. W. G. Buckner.

Foreign Missions—Rev. W. M. Kincaid, Rev. G. S. Abbott, Mrs. Sally Wilson, Mrs. A. M. Rowe, Miss Eunice Hobbs.

Publication—Rev. G. R. Read, Rev. E. H. Gray, D. D., D. Ferguson, A. H. Pratt, T. K. Hook.

Next Anniversary—Rev. J. B. Hartwell, D. D., Rev. G. R. Read, B. C. Wright, C. M. Hutchinson, James Dalziel.

Resolutions—Rev. W. T. Fleenor, Rev. J. Q. A. Henry, B. C. Wright.

Nominate Missionary Board—Rev. W. M. Kincaid, Rev. G. S. Abbott, D. D., Rev. H. W. Read, Darius Pierce.

Printing—E. R. Pope, H. S. Smith, J. R. Mason.

Obituary—Rev. C. W. Hewes, Rev. J. S. Jesse, E. H. Lenox.

Auditing—Dea. P. U. Blunt, L. L. Brown.

The following resolution was presented by Rev. W. M. Kincaid, and, on motion, was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, it has been deemed advisable by the following churches, viz.: the First, Fifth and Chinese of San Francisco, the First and Trinity of Oakland, the First of Brooklyn, the First of Alameda, the Calvary of Sacramento, the First of Stockton, the First of Vallejo, the First of Modesto, Ceres, Wheatland, and Virginia City, in order to uphold the purity and efficiency of church and ministerial life, to separate themselves entirely from the body known as *The California Baptist Convention*, and to form themselves into a body known as *The General Baptist Convention of California*, for the purpose of maintaining and propagating those principles which they are convinced are absolutely necessary for true and permanent denominational success; therefore they extend a most cordial invitation to all the churches throughout the State, who can give them their hearty sympathy and co-operation, to connect themselves immediately with this body.

Moved and seconded that the President and Secretary be instructed to send copies of the foregoing resolution to the Baptist Churches in this State which they consider will be in sympathy with this Convention. Carried.

Moved and seconded that copies of above Resolution be sent to the secular papers in this State. Carried.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The Committee on Sunday Schools presented the following report by its Chairman, Rev. J. Q. A. Henry, which was, on motion, adopted:

Regarding the Sunday School work as one of the most important agencies for the evangelization of our State, we recommend—

1. The more general and more practical use of the Bible in our Sunday Schools.

2. The use of denominational literature in all our Sunday School work, and hope that immediate and successful efforts be made to secure a depository of such literature on this Coast.

3. That we earnestly recommend that a larger and more sympathetic place be given to the Sunday Schools in our Church work.

4. A more systematic plan of benevolences in our Sunday Schools.

5. That we recommend to the Sunday Schools of our denomination that they send delegates to the Sunday School State Convention.

[Signed.]

J. Q. A. Henry,
H. W. Read,
M. D. Gage,
E. R. Stockwell,
J. L. Merguire.

Moved and seconded that Rev. J. Q. A. Henry be appointed representative of this Convention to carry its greeting to the anniversary meetings held in Indianapolis. Carried.

STATE WORK.

The Committee on State Work presented the following report by its chairman, Rev. G. S. Abbott, D. D., which was, on motion, adopted:

Your Committee on State Work most confidently appeal to the honesty of their convictions in severing their connection with the California Baptist Convention, in the belief that the interests of our denominational life and work in this State will be happily forwarded by the organization of a new Convention, a few of the objects of whose existence will be:—

I. The more thorough acquaintance with the religious condition of the Baptist churches of California; with their need of aid, and the sources of supply in the support of the ministry of the gospel; with the fields that should be as soon as possible occupied, in the name of our Baptist denomination; with the towns and cities where church edifices are to be erected, or held with aid from the Church Edifice Fund of the A. B. H. M. Society; in a word, to accept all the trusts imposed upon us in fulfilling our duties as Baptists in the present hour in California, and so for generations to come.

II. We hold it to be no small part of our obligations, that an enlarged spirit of home effort should be awakened in all of our churches, now and hereafter to be connected with this General Baptist Convention, to the end that they may take on strength from their own endeavor to be self-supporting, the more to show themselves entitled to aid from abroad. With this evidence furnished us of the purpose of our needy churches to do all in their power to grow and prosper, we put on record our pledge that we will aid them, as far as possible, with whatever means we have at our call.

III. It is the conviction of your Committee on State Work that our churches are sadly undeveloped all along the line of benevolent work. It appears from the report made to us by Rev. C. F. Tolman, District Secretary of the A. B. Missionary Union for the West, that for the last three years, a less amount than $200 per year has been raised in California for Foreign Missions. This is a lamentably poor record, and shows serious delinquency, it is feared, in the direction of pastoral fidelity. The same report shows that Oakland First, San Diego, Santa Clara and Carpenteria are the only churches in the State that have contributed to this cause regularly for the past three years. We urge our churches, as soon as possible, all over our State, to commit themselves to systematic benevolence, in the behalf of the following named societies: *The American Baptist Home Mission Society*, whose claims are this way the strongest, by as much as California is largely herself a missionary field; *The American Baptist Publication Society*, whose missionary and publication departments we hope are sooner or later to be represented in our State; and the *Missionary Union*, the aid of which, as the most world-wide society of all, is an obligation upon Baptists throughout the land and world. In a word, we suggest that no church is under good headway for work, that omits either one of these societies in the list of its benevolences. For the work to be inaugurated auspiciously by this Convention, we publish our purpose on its very threshold, as committed to the support of these three grand national societies of our beloved denomination in the United States. Should any of our churches be in special affiliation with similar societies in the Southern States, their privilege and duty are recognized in putting forth benevolent action in their behalf. What we wish to bring on is a contributing denomination in California, as far as God enables it, to the claims of the whole Kingdom of God to its thought and service, its joint prayer and aid.

IV. To accomplish somewhat of this work of our Convention as above indicated, we recommend our churches to provide, by some by-law or other

enactment, for annual collections, at such times as are most convenient, each for itself, in the furtherance of the enlarging interest of our denomination at home and abroad, and to the effectiveness of which we appeal to the special endeavors of all our pastors throughout the State.

(Signed.)

G. S. Abbott,
C. W. Hewes,
J. S. Jesse,
W. R. Strong,
J. L. Lyon.

Moved and seconded that a copy of the declaration read last evening in the California Baptist Convention, and which formed the basis of our action, be sent to said Convention. Carried.

EDUCATION.

The Committee on Education presented the following report, by its Chairman, Rev. E. H. Gray, D. D., which was, on motion, after discussion, adopted:

Your committee regrets that educational matters under the control of Baptists in our State are at present so limited.

The Baptist California College has practically ceased operations, and the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Gates, of San Diego, have closed their school, so we have left only Prof. Wells' and Mrs. Perry's Seminary, at Sacramento, in successful operation.

The committee would call attention to a young ladies' seminary recently established at Healdsburg, in the building known as the Healdsburg Institute, by Misses Carter & Heald, under Baptist influences, which promises to be a decided success. We hope that the Baptists in that locality will find it for their interest to patronize that Seminary.

We trust the time is not far distant when the Baptists will unite in earnest effort to build up and sustain a first-class educational institute on this coast.

(Signed.)

E. H. Gray,
S. B. Morse,
W. M. Kincaid,
E. R. Bromley.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Committee on Foreign Missions presented the following report, by its Chairman, Rev. W. M. Kincaid, which was, on motion, adopted.

Whereas, we believe that the Gospel of Christ is the God-ordained means for the salvation of the world; *And whereas*, we believe that it is our duty and

privilege to do all that we can for its spread among the nations of the earth; therefore,

Resolved, That we commend to the sympathy and prayers of the churches represented in this body, all the missionaries now engaged in this great and glorious work.

Resolved, That we recommend that they do all that they can by generous contributions to carry on the work of the American Baptist Missionary Union; also, that we endorse most heartily the work of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Pacific Coast, and that we commend it to the sympathy and aid of the Sisters in our churches.

(Signed)

W. M. Kincaid.
Mrs. G. S. Abbott.
Mrs. Wilson.
Mrs. Roe.
Miss Hobbs.

WOMAN'S HOME MISSIONS.

The Committee on Woman's Home Missions presented the following report, by its Chairman, Rev. W. T. Fleenor, which was, on motion, adopted:

We, your committee, most cordially recommend the Woman's Home Mission work to the churches of California, and most earnestly request that ladies' circles be formed in all the churches; also, that special prayer be made for Home Missionaries.

(Signed.)

W. T. Fleenor,
Mrs. M. M. Gray,
Mrs. E. K. Hook.

PUBLICATIONS.

The Committee on Publications presented the following report, by its Chairman, Rev. G. R. Read, which was, on motion, adopted:

Resolved, That this Convention expresses an earnest desire that the American Baptist Publication Society shall establish a book depository in San Francisco or some other eligible point in the State.

Resolved, That we recommend the publications of said Society to all our churches in their Sunday School work.

Resolved, That we recommend to the Baptist people of the Pacific coast, their earnest support of the *Herald of Truth*, as a Baptist paper, pure and healthy in tone, sound in doctrine, and an ardent advocate of all our denominational work.

George R. Read, Chairman.

Bro. Wong Kwai Hong, rising to a question of privilege, presented the following appeal:

"The representatives of the Chinese Baptist Church in San Francisco beg to make a special appeal through this Convention, to the Baptists of this State in behalf of their countrymen here. Our people are going on in idolatry and ignorance of the true God, in nearly all the towns and cities of the State within reach of the Baptist churches; and in behalf of these perishing souls we implore the followers of Christ to gather these people into Sunday Schools, and in every possible way to labor for their conversion to Christ."

On motion it was ordered that the foregoing be spread on the Minutes and printed in the report.

CHINESE.

The Committee on Chinese work presented its report, by the Chairman, Rev. J. B. Hartwell, D. D., and on motion, consideration of report was postponed till afternoon.

MISSIONARY BOARD.

The committee appointed to nominate a Missionary Board of the Convention, submitted the following report, which was adopted:

Rev. W. M. Kincaid, San Francisco; Rev. G. S. Abbott, D. D., Oakland; Rev. E. H. Gray, D. D., Vallejo; Rev. W. T. Fleenor, Stockton; Rev. J. B. Hartwell, San Francisco; Rev. J. Q. A. Henry, Sacramento; Rev. C. W. Hewes, San Francisco; Rev. Geo. R. Read, Alameda; Rev. M. D. Gage, Modesto; Rev. H. I. Parker, Santa Ana; Mr. A. B. Forbes, San Francisco; Mr. J. R. Mason, Oakland; Mr. W. R. Strong, Sacramento; E. R. Stockwell, Stockton; Mr. Jefferis, Vallejo.

In addition to the foregoing the officers of the Convention were declared *ex-officio* members of the Board.

After prayer by Rev. W. T. Fleenor, the Convention adjourned till 1:30 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

THURSDAY, 1:30 P. M.

Convention convened at appointed hour, the President in the Chair.

Prayer by Rev. J. S. Jesse, of Wheatland.

NEXT ANNIVERSARY.

The Committee on Next Anniversary presented the following report, by its Chairman, Rev. J. B. Hartwell, D. D., which was, on motion, adopted:

That a supplementary meeting be held in connection with the meeting of the *Central Baptist Association* at Stockton, in October.

That the annual meeting of the Convention be held with the Fifth Church, of San Francisco, on the second Wednesday evening in May, 1882, to be preceded on the previous Tuesday evening by a conference of the Pastors and Deacons.

That the Convention sermon be preached by Rev. W. T. Fleenor; alternate Rev. H. W. Read.

That the Educational sermon be preached by Rev. G. S. Abbott, D. D.; alternate, Rev. M. D. Gage.

That the Sermon on Missions be preached by Rev. J. Q. A. Henry; alternate, Rev. E. H. Gray, D. D.

That the Sermon on Sunday Schools be preached by Rev. W. M. Kincaid; alternate, Rev. J. S. Jesse.

(Signed) J. B. HARTWELL,
B. C. WRIGHT,
JAMES DAUZIEL,
GEO. R. READ.

Moved and seconded that the official management of this body continue in service until the next election at the annual meeting in May, 1882. Carried.

Moved and seconded that a synopsis of the Minutes be printed in the *Herald of Truth*, and that the President appoint Committee to take charge of same. Carried.

The President appointed as such Committee—E. R. Pope, C. M. P. Reeves, B. C. Wright.

Moved and seconded that this Convention adjourn at 3:30 P.M. to meet at Stockton in October. Carried.

CHINESE.

On motion, the report of Committee on Chinese Missions was taken from the table, and read as follows by Dr. Hartwell.

Your Committee on Chinese Missions in this State beg to report that they find Mission effort put forth for the conversion of the Chinese in our midst as follows: The First Church, Oakland, has an efficient Sunday School of about thirty, and a night school with average attendance of about twenty, conducted by Mrs. Dr. Bradway and Miss Dearborn. The Chinese membership in the church is fifteen. There is, also, a Sunday School in connection with the Brooklyn Church, numbering twenty-five to sixty, and in the San Diego Sunday School a class of about a dozen. These are all the interests of which we have been able to learn, aside from the Mission of the Southern Baptist Convention under the direction of the Rev. Dr. Hartwell, in San Francisco. This Mission has been successfully conducted during the year. A Chinese Church was organized on October 3, 1880, which now has a membership of twelve, and is now represented in this body. The contributions of this little band to religious and benevolent purposes has been $160. The night school of this Mission now has an average attendance of seventy. This Mission needs and deserves the cordial sympathy and aid of the churches on this coast. Dr. Hartwell needs means to employ assistants in the flourishing night school under his direction. Your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That we urge our churches throughout the State, wherever there are Chinese, to make special local efforts for their instruction and conversion.

Resolved, That we recommend that our churches aid the Mission at San Francisco in means to pay for assistance in the night school.

Resolved, That a committee be now appointed and authorized to organize as a constituent of this Convention a Chinese Mission Society, with branches in the several churches, whose object shall be to promote, by prayer, direct labor and contributions of money, the cause of Chinese evangelization in this State.

(Signed.)

J. B. Hartwell,
S. B. Morse,
G. S. Abbott,
John F. Pope,
J. C. Voorhees.

After a very interesting discussion, the foregoing report was unanimously adopted.

Pledges to the amount of $180 were then made for the support of an assistant teacher in Dr. Hartwell's night school in San Francisco.

Moved and seconded that a committee with power to organize a Chinese Mission Society, under the auspices of the Convention, be appointed. Carried.

The following were appointed as such Committee—Rev. Drs. J. B. Hartwell, G. S. Abbott and E. H. Gray, and Rev. Messrs. W. M. Kincaid, W. T. Fleenor and S. B. Morse.

Rev. W. M. Kincaid read the following telegram received from Capt Hull, Superintendent of the First Baptist Sunday School of San Francisco:

San Francisco, May 12, 1881.

"Rev. Wm. M. Kincaid—Action commended. Now the ark of the Lord can go forward. Deuteronomy xxxi:6-8. G. A. Hull."

The passage referred to reads as follows: "Be strong and of a good courage, fear not nor be afraid of them; for the Lord thy God, He it is that doth go with thee, He will not fail thee nor forsake thee. And Moses called unto Joshua and said unto him in the sight of all Israel, Be strong and of a good courage; for thou must go with this people unto the land which the Lord hath sworn unto their fathers to give them; and thou shall cause them to inherit it. And the Lord, He it is that doth go before thee: He will be with thee: He will not fail thee, neither forsake thee; fear not, neither be dismayed."

Rev. Dr. Gray reported that the ladies had organized a "Woman's Home Mission Society" in connection with the Convention, with thirty members, and had collected $30, and had chosen as officers—Mrs. Dr. E. H. Gray, of Vallejo, President; Mrs. O. K. Wright, of San Francisco, Treasurer, Miss E. Hobbs, of Vallejo, Secretary.

Moved and seconded that at the supplementary meeting of the Convention at Stockton, the churches shall be represented by the pastor and two delegates. Carried.

RESOLUTIONS.

The Committee on Resolutions offered the following, by its Chairman, Rev. W. T. Fleenor, which was, on motion, unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we tender our thanks to the officers and members of the Central Presbyterian Church of Dixon for the use of their house during the meeting of this body.

The Enrollment Committee reported present as delegates the persons whose names appear signed to the declaration above set forth. (See pages 4 and 5).

The Treasurer reported receipts as $179.40. Report accepted.

After prayer by Rev. Dr. Gray, the Convention adjourned to meet in Stockton next Fall.

MISSIONARY BOARD.

The Missionary Board met after the adjournment of the Convention.

Rev. E. H. Gray, D. D., was elected Chairman of the Board, and E. R. Pope, Secretary.

On motion, an Executive Committee of five was appointed as follows:—Rev. W. M. Kincaid, Rev. S. B. Morse, Rev. G. S. Abbott, D. D., Rev. J. B. Hartwell, D. D., and Rev. E. H. Gray, D. D.

On motion, Rev. W. M. Kincaid was elected Chairman of Executive Committee, and Rev. G. S. Abbott, D. D., Secretary.

On motion, Rev. G. S. Abbott, D. D., was authorized to open correspondence with Rev. H. L. Morehouse, D. D., Secretary of the American Baptist Home Mission Society, informing him of our action in organizing a new Convention, and to express to him our earnest desire that the Society might honor the same in its future operations in this State.

E. R. POPE, Secretary,
434 California St, San Francisco.

Minutes of the Supplemental Meeting

of the

General Baptist Convention of California.

Stockton, October 4th, 1881.

The Convention met this day at 10 o'clock a. m., with the First Baptist Church, the President, Rev. S. B. Morse, presiding. Opening prayer by Rev. M. D. Gage of Modesto.

The President announced the following Committees:

On Enrollment—Rev. G. R. Read, Rev. J. B. Hartwell, D.D., and Dea. B. W. Owens.

On Arrangements—Rev. W. T. Fleenor, Rev. G. S. Abbott, D.D., Rev. J. S. Jesse, Bros. J. L. Lyon and G. A. Hull.

The Committee on Enrollment reported fourteen Churches present by delegates, as follows:

LIST OF DELEGATES.

First Baptist Church, San Francisco—Rev. W. M. Kincaid, E. R. Pope and B. C. Wright.

Fifth Baptist Church, San Francisco—Rev. C. W. Hewes, P. D. Code, J. L. Merguire.

Chinese Church, San Francisco—Rev. J. B. Hartwell, Lo Ping Kee and Lee Fau Mun.

First Baptist Church, Oakland—Rev. G. S. Abbott, J. P. Cogswell and J. L. Lyon.

East Oakland—Rev. S. B. Morse, J. R. Mason, Robt. Shuey.

Modesto—Rev. M. D. Gage, Mrs. M. E. Gage.

Alameda—Rev. G. R. Read, N. W. Griswold, Mrs. N. W. Griswold.

Vallejo—Rev. E. H. Gray, Mrs. E. H. Gray, Miss Eunice Hobbs.

First, Stockton—Rev. W. T. Fleenor, E. R. Stockwell, A. M. Rowe.

Virginia City, Nevada—Rev. H. W. Read.

Calvary Church, Sacramento—Rev. J. Q. A. Henry, L. F. Fredricks, W. R. Strong.

Trinity, Oakland—J. M. Fowler.

Wheatland—Rev. J. S. Jesse.

Penryn—H. H. Hart.

The Committee on Arrangements reported as follows for the order of business:

1st. Report of Committee on Constitution.
2d. Addresses by Revs. S. S. Fisk and H. I. Parker.

The President appointed the following Committee:

On Reception of New Churches—Rev. W. M. Kincaid, Rev. E. H. Gray, D. D., Rev. G. S. Abbott, D. D., and Bro. P. D. Code.

Moved that brethren present, not yet members of the Convention, but who design to unite with us, be invited to seats in the Convention, with the privilege of discussion, without power to vote. Carried.

The Committee on Constitution and By-Laws presented their report, which was read article by article, discussed, amended and finally, on motion, adopted as a whole, as follows: (See page 3.)

The Committee on the Reception of New Churches reported, recommending the admission of the following Churches into this Convention:

Santa Barbara—Rev. S. S. Fisk, Rev. J. W. Webb, Bro. Calkins.
Goleta—Rev. S. S. Fisk.
Ceres—Deacon D. K. Woodbridge, Mrs. D. K. Woodbridge, Bro. H. Wooster.

Santa Ana—Rev. H. I. Parker.
Second Baptist Church, Stockton—Rev. Philip H. Peck, Bro. James Babbett, Bro. John Dorsey.
Gilroy—Mrs. I. J. Howard.
Santa Clara—Rev. C. L. Fisher, Bro. E. Burrel, Bro. J. E. Glendening.
Sonora—Rev. A. J. Sturtevant, Miss Lucy Bell.
Santa Cruz—By letter.
Vacaville—Rev. J. B. Saxton, D. D.

On motion, the report of the Committee was unanimously adopted and the President extended the hand of fellowship to the delegates.

The President appointed the following Committee:

On Nominations—Rev. G. S. Abbott, D. D., Rev. J. Q. A. Henry, Rev. H. I. Parker, D. D., Bros. E. R. Stockwell and L. F. Fredricks.

Convention adjourned, after prayer by Rev. E. H. Gray, D.D., till 2 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

October 4th, 2 p. m.

Convention met at 2 o'clock, p. m.

Letter from Baptist Church of Vallejo read by Rev. E. H. Gray, D. D.

The Committee on Nominations submitted the following report:

President—Rev. S. B. Morse.
Vice-Presidents—A. B. Forbes, E. R. Stockwell.
Recording Secretary—E. R. Pope.
Statistical Secretary—Rev. J. Q. A. Henry.
Treasurer—B. C. Wright.
Auditor—J. R. Bradway.

Directors, 1882—Rev. J. B. Saxton, D. D., Rev. J. S. Jesse, Rev. S. S. Fisk, Rev. George Guirey, Rev. A. J. Sturtevant, T. K. Hook, J. L. Merguire, G. A. Hull, J. P. Cogswell.

Directors, 1883—Rev. A. L. Cole, Rev. J. Q. A. Henry, Rev. Geo. R. Read, Rev. J. B. Hartwell, Rev. M. D. Gage, Rev. W. T. Fleenor, J. C. Voorhees, J. L. Lyon, D. D. Woodbridge.

Directors, 1884—Rev. G. S. Abbott, Rev. W. M. Kincaid, Rev. S. B. Morse, Rev. E. H. Gray, Rev. C. W. Hewes, Rev. H. I. Parker, P. D. Code, W. R. Strong, J. R. Mason.

Moved that Dr. Parker be authorized to cast the ballot of the Convention for the foregoing officers. Carried.

Dr. Parker cast the ballot and the officers were declared elected.

Moved that all visiting brethren present be invited to seats in the Convention. Carried.

The Convention then listened to short and interesting addresses by Revs. S. S. Fisk and H. I. Parker, giving account of the condition of the denomination in Southern California.

Short addresses were then made by Rev. E. H. Gray, D. D., Rev. J. Q. A. Henry and Rev. A. L. Cole.

Moved that a Committee of three be appointed by the President to draw a resolution expressive of the willingness of this Convention to at once co-operate heartily with the American Baptist Home Mission Society. Carried.

The President appointed as such committee—Rev. W. M. Kincaid, Rev. J. Q. A. Henry and Rev. E. H. Gray, D. D.

Moved that Revs. A. L. Cole, R. C. White and T. J. Weil be received as constituent members of this Convention. Carried unanimously.

Moved that the thanks of this Convention be given to the First Baptist Church of Stockton for their cordial hospitality. Carried.

Moved that the churches be requested to make contributions for the publication of the Minutes, and that the Minutes of this Convention be published with the Minutes of The Central Association. Carried.

The following communication from the American Baptist Home Mission Society was read:

SEPTEMBER 27, 1881.

The American Baptist Home Mission Society, to The General Baptist Convention of California, Greeting:

DEAR BRETHREN:—In 1882 the American Baptist Home Mission Society will complete fifty years of its history. During this period its work has been prosecuted in every part of the country—during the past year in forty-three States and Territories, also in Mexico. The Society has been the mother of a multitude of churches and the helper of weak and struggling interests. For actual missionary service the Society has paid about $1,700,000, and for educational work among the Freedmen and the Indians, nearly $1,000,000. Over $300,000 have been loaned to 331 churches for the erection of edifices. To January 1, 1881, the amount paid for Missionary labor in California is $70,478.34, while four churches have been aided by loans in the erection of edifices to the amount of $5,500.

Naturally, therefore, the Society is deeply interested in the progress of our common cause in your own borders, as well as throughout other portions of the great West and the South, also. We trust on your part, also, there is reciprocal interest in the Society's work wherever prosecuted.

It has seemed to many that the approaching semi-centennial anniversary of the Society furnishes a fitting occasion for the manifestati n of this mutual interest, and for the interchange of views about our mission work in North America. Accordingly the Society, at the meeting in Indianapolis in May, 1881, adopted the recommendation of the Board "that measures be taken to secure a representative gathering in 1882, from all sections of the country in which the Society has proesecuted its work during the last fifty years, to review what has been wrought and to deliberate concerning what yet is to be done."

Pursuant to this action, the Executive Board hereby fraternally invite the General Baptist Convention of California to appoint five delegates to sit with representatives of sister Conventions in the semi-centennial meeting of the Society in May, 1882, for joint conference concerning the strengthening and the extension of the Redeemer's Kingdom on this continent.

Done by order and behalf of the Board, September 12, 1881.

Fraternally yours, H. L. MOREHOUSE, Cor. Secretary.

In compliance with this request, the following were appointed as delegates:—Rev. G. S. Abbott, Rev. W. M. Kincaid, Rev. S. B. Morse, Rev. W. T. Fleenor and Rev. J. Q. A. Henry.

On motion the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That in the *Herald of Truth* we have one of the best missionary agencies in the State, and that we cannot perform better service for our cause

on this coast than by extending its circulation until a copy of it shall be found in every Baptist family all over the Pacific Coast.

After prayer by Rev. A. L. Cole, D. D., the Convention adjourned to meet with the Fifth Church, San Francisco, Wednesday, May 10th, 1882.

MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

The Board of Directors met at close of meeting of Convention.

Rev. S. B. Morse, in the Chair.

Moved that Rev. H. I. Parker be appointed on the Executive Board as the representative of Southern California. Carried.

Moved that Rev. J. Q. A. Henry be appointed on the Executive Board as the representative of Northern California. Carried.

The following named persons were elected as remaining members of the Executive Board:—Rev. G. S. Abbott, D. D., Rev. E. H. Gray, D. D., Rev. W. M. Kincaid, Rev. S. B. Morse and Bro. J. R. Mason.

Moved that we recommend that $300 be appropriated from the Church Edifice Fund of A. B. H. M. Society to the church at Penryn. Carried.

Moved that we recommend that $300 be appropriated from the Church Edifice Fund of A. B. H. M. Society to the church at Woodland. Carried.

Moved that the matter of procuring a house of worship for the Modesto Church be referred to the Executive Committee with power to act. Carried.

Moved that the rules in relation to churches applying for aid be adopted and printed in the Minutes. Carried. (See page 2.)

Moved that the Executive Committee be instructed to co-operate with the Advisory Committee of the Home Mission Society, in reference to the appointment of missionaries, and that the matter be referred to Executive Committee with power to act. Carried.

On motion the Board adjourned.

E. R. POPE, Secretary.

NOTE.—In accordance with Article VIII of the Constitution, the Executive Board have appointed the following Committees:

Sunday Schools—S. B. Morse, M. D. Gage, E. R. Stockwell.

Education—G. S. Abbott, A. L. Cole, H. I. Parker.

Publication Society—Wm. M. Kincaid, C. W. Hewes, C. W. Dearborn,

Home Missions—E. H. Gray, J. Q. A. Henry, J. R. Masou.

Foreign Missions—J. B. Hartwell, G. A. Hull, W. T. Fleenor.

MINUTES

OF

CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

OF CALIFORNIA,

HELD AT

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, SAN FRANCISCO,

MAY 5TH, 1881.

AND

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, STOCKTON,

OCT. 4TH, 5TH & 6TH, 1881.

OFFICERS:

Moderator, - - - - - - REV. W. T. FLEENOR,
Stockton, Cal.

Clerk, - - - - - REV. J. B. HARTWELL, D. D.,
1223 Washington Street, San Francisco.

Treasurer, - - - - - - - P. D. CODE, ESQ.,
314 Washington Street, San Francisco.

MINUTES

OF THE

Central Baptist Convention of California.

FIRST DAY.

At the call of Rev. S. B. Morse, Moderator of the Stockton Conference, issued at the request of the Baptist Pastor's Conference of San Francisco, delegates appointed by their respective churches for the purpose of organizing a new Baptist Association met at the First Baptist Church, San Francisco, May 5, 1881.

The meeting was called to order by Rev. S. B. Morse, who, after prayer by Rev. Dr. Hartwell, announced the object of the meeting.

On motion of Rev. J. Q. A. Henry, Rev. S. B. Morse was elected Moderator; and on motion of Rev. William M. Kincaid, Dr. Hartwell was elected Secretary of the meeting.

Rev. C. W. Hewes was appointed to enroll the delegates present.

The churches represented and their delegates were as follows:

First Church, San Francisco—Rev. Wm. M. Kincaid; Deacons P. U. Blunt, John F. Pope and E. F. Joy.

First Church, Oakland—Rev. G. S. Abbott, D. D., L. M. Babcock and James Dalziel.

First Church, Brooklyn—Rev. S. B. Morse, J. A. Anderson, A. A. Guernsey.

Trinity Church, Oakland—A. L. Thompson, G. S. Fowler, C. L. Lombard.

Chinese Church, San Francisco—Rev. J. B. Hartwell, D. D., Wong Kwai Hong, Wang Yu Hau.

Fifth Church, San Francisco—Rev. C. W. Hewes; Deacons J. L. Merguire, P. D. Code.

Calvary Church, Sacramento—Rev. J. Q. A. Henry; Deacons W. R. Strong, M. A. Washburn, A. L. Boschke.

Alameda Church—Rev. G. R. Read, Charles M. Hutchinson.

First Church, Stockton—Represented by letter.

Modesto Church—Represented by letter.

Ceres Church—Represented by letter.

Rev. J. B. Knight and Captain G. A. Hull being present, they were invited to seats.

It was moved by Rev. C. W. Hewes, seconded by Rev. W. M. Kincaid, and unanimously carried, that this body now proceed to organize an association.

The following preamble and resolution, proposed by Rev. Dr. Abbott, were unanimously adopted:

The churches here represented, having been invited by the Moderator of the Conference held in Stockton, November 9, 1880, to meet, by delegates, at the First Baptist Church, San Francisco, May 5, 1881, for the purpose of considering the expediency of forming themselves, as unassociated churches, into an Association—

Resolve, That the time has come for us, as churches, in the interest of the purity and efficiency of our denominational life and work on the Pacific Coast, to form ourselves into an Association, to be known as the Central Baptist Association of California.

The Association was accordingly organized with Rev. S. B. Morse as Moderator; Rev. J. B. Hartwell, Clerk; and P. D. Code, Esq., Treasurer.

On motion of Rev. G. S. Abbott, the Moderator appointed a committee, consisting of Rev. G. S. Abbott, D. D., Rev. Wm. M. Kincaid, Rev. M. D. Gage, Deacons W. R. Strong and E. R. Stockwell, to draft a constitution, by-laws and rules of order for the Association. This committee was also empowered to fix the time, place and exercises for the next meeting of the Association.

On motion of Rev. W. M. Kincaid, delegates were appointed to represent this Association in the Baptist State Convention, to meet with the Baptist church at Dixon, May 11, 1881, as follows: Captain G. A. Hull, B. C. Wright, A. S. Merserau and Mrs. A. S. Merserau, and these delegates were authorized in case of their inability to attend, to appoint substitutes to fill their places. The Clerk was ordered to furnish the delegates a certificate of appointment.

On motion, the Clerk was ordered to have the minutes of this meeting published in the *Herald of Truth*, and to send a notice of the organization of this Association to the secular papers for publication.

On motion, the Association adjourned.

Prayer by Rev. G. S. Abbott.

S. B. MORSE, Moderator.

J. B. HARTWELL, Clerk.

Minutes of the First Annual Session

of the

Central Baptist Association of California.

FIRST DAY.

At seven o'clock, P. M., Tuesday, October 4, 1881, the Central Baptist Association of California met at the First Baptist Church in Stockton.

After half an hour spent in devotional exercises, conducted by Rev. M. D. Gage, the Association was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. S. B. Morse, and the following committees were appointed:

On Roll of Delegates—G. R. Read, M. D. Gage and E. R. Pope.

On Nominations—Brethren Kincaid, Henry and Woodbridge.

On Arrangements—Brethren Fleenor, Abbott and Merguire.

The Committee on Nominations reported, whereupon Rev. W. T. Fleenor was elected Moderator, Rev. J. B. Hartwell, Clerk; P. D. Code, Esq., Treasurer.

The Moderator delivered a short address, in the course of which he extended to the Association a cordial and eloquent welcome to the Stockton Church, of which he is Pastor.

The Committee on Roll reported as per Statistical Table. (See pages 44 and 45.)

On recommendation of the Committee on Arrangements, the Association heard, in part, the report of the Committee on Constitution appointed at the last meeting, and laid the same on the table to hear the annual sermon which was preached by Rev. G. S. Abbott, D. D., of Oakland; text, Psalm, lxii., 5: "My soul, wait thou only upon God, for my expectation is from Him."

After the sermon, touching addresses of three minutes each were delivered by numerous brethren. The exercises of the evening were interspersed by solos, duets and hearty congregational singing.

Adjourned till 9:30 to-morrow morning.

SECOND DAY.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, October 5.

After devotional exercises, the Association was called to order. The Committee on Arrangements reported partially.

Rev. Dr. A. J. Frost being about to leave the city, was invited to address the Association, which he did, expressing in brief the pleasure he had experienced in attending the meetings. He desired union and harmony in the denomination on the coast and elsewhere, desired that by-gones be by-gones, and asked pardon if, in the past, he had offended or grieved any brother.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Constitution was taken from the table, and, after discussion, the following Constitution was adopted.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I. This body shall be called the Central Baptist Association of California.

ART. II. Each church entitled to send delegates to this Association shall be allowed three delegates for each organization and one additional delegate for each fifty members up to the number of 300, which shall be the limit.

ART. III. The objects of the Association shall be the collection of statistical and other information from the churches, the cultivation of mutual acquaintance and fraternal union, and the free interchange of views upon subjects pertaining to individual godliness, the spiritual prosperity of the churches, and the enlargement of the Redeemer's Kingdom.

ART. IV. The Association shall meet annually on Tuesday after the first Sunday in October, at such place as it may appoint. The services shall be commenced with public worship, after which a collection shall be taken for any object the Association may direct.

ART. V. The officers of the Association shall be a Moderator, a Clerk and a Treasurer, who shall be chosen by ballot, unless

otherwise ordered, and shall continue in office until the election of their successors.

The Moderator shall preside in all the meetings, nominate all committees, and take the direction of all the religious services.

The Clerk shall record all the transactions, and superintend the publication and distribution of the minutes.

The Treasurer shall receive all moneys and other property contributed for any of the purposes of the Association, and dispose of the same according to the will of the donors or the votes of the Association, and his accounts shall be properly vouched by an Auditor.

Art. VI. Each Church connected with the Association shall send annually a letter containing an account of its history during the year preceding, specifying the number added by baptism, by letter, by experience, and by restoration; the number removed by dismission, by erasure and by death; the whole number then in fellowship, and the amount of money raised for all purposes during the year. If any church shall neglect for three successive years to send such a letter, it shall be considered as having withdrawn from the Association.

Art. VII. The Association may receive any Church which shall apply for admission by sending a letter and delegates, and give satisfactory evidence as to its faith and order.

Art. VIII. This Association shall hold local conferences for the development of the religious life and interests of the churches as it may determine at each annual meeting.

Art. IX. Each church shall send by its delegates money for the publication of the Minutes, and shall receive in return its quota of the Minutes.

Art. X. The Association shall not, in any case, interfere with the internal concerns of the churches; but it may dissolve its connection with any church, which, after proper examination, shall be judged by the Association to have departed essentially from Baptist faith and practice.

Art. XI. The Association shall, at each annual meeting, appoint two preachers for the next meeting on doctrinal and practical themes.

ART. XII. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any annual meeting of the Association by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, provided, always, that notice of the change or changes proposed shall have been given at a previous annual meeting and published in the Minutes.

Letters from the churches constituting the Association were read by Brethren Kincaid and Henry.

On motion, Bros. J. B. Hartwell, E. R. Pope aad J. Q. A. Henry, were appointed a Committee on Denominational Statistics, to prepare a tabulated statement for the Minutes.

Application for membership in the Association was made by the following churches, viz.: Sonora, Second of Stockton, Wheatland, Penryn, Virginia City, Nev., Santa Clara and Gilroy. These applications were referred to a committee consisting of Brethren Kincaid, Code and Gray.

By invitation, Mrs. Howard addressed the Association briefly on behalf of the Gilroy Baptist Church.

Rev. Dr. Thompson, Secretary of the California and American Bible Societies, by invitation, addressed the Association, whereupon, on motion of Bro. Abbott, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That we always hear the Rev. John Thompson, Agent of the American Bible Society, with pleasure, and express our gratitude for the Society's donations to our churches; we pledge to him our patronage as far as we can do so in fidelity to our own Publication Society.

The Committee on Arrangements announced a meeting of the Ladies' Foreign Mission Society, at 2 P. M.

The Committee on Applications for membership reported favorably on all the applications, whereupon the churches named were received, and the right hand of fellowship was extended by the Moderator to their delegates.

COMMITTEES.

The Moderator then appointed the following Committees:

On Publication Society—Brethren Kincaid, Hook and Hull.

On Sunday Schools—Brethren Morse, White and Stockwell.

On Foreign Missions—Brethren Gage, Cogswell and Hartwell.

On Home Missions—Brethren Gray, White and Lyons.

On Education—Brethren Abbott, Henry and Sturtevant.

On Chinese Missions—Brethren Read, Jesse and Mrs. Bradway.

On Obituaries—Brethren J. F. Pope, Fisher and Merguire.

On Time, Place and Preachers for the next Annual Meeting—Brethren Jesse, Sturtevant and B. C. Wright.

On Publications—Brethren Henry, Wright and Cole.

By invitation, Brother C. L. Orcut, of San Jose, addressed the Association, after which an adjournment was taken till 2 P.M.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

The first half hour of the afternoon was occupied by the Ladies' Foreign Missionary Society of the Pacific Coast.

After prayer by Rev. Dr. Cole, of Dixon, the report of the Committee on the Publication Society was presented as follows:

We recognize the American Baptist Publication Society as an invaluable auxiliary to the churches in prosecuting denominational work, and most cordially commend it to the sympathy and liberal support of our people.

It is of vital importance that we, as Baptists, should have a distinctively denominational literature in circulation among our people, and we earnestly urge upon the churches and Sunday schools connected with our Association, to make use of the Sunday school books and publications of this Society, which are inferior to none published elsewhere.

We also deem it of vital importance that the Publication Society should be more closely identified with denominational interests on this coast, and that, as soon as practicable, they should establish a depository with a superintendent of Sunday school work in this State.

The report was discussed by Brethren Kincaid, Cole, Merguire, Heath, Henry, G. A. Read, Gray, Fisher, Hull, Fleenor and Lyon, and unanimously adopted.

On motion of Bro. Henry, it was

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to correspond with the American Baptist Publication Society in reference to the establishment of a depository on this coast, and to learn the conditions on which such a depository may be established at once.

The Moderator appointed on this Committee Brethren Abbott, Kincaid and Gray.

The Committee on Publications reported as follows:

Resolved—1. That one of the best auxiliaries for church work is a good paper, and that we have such an agency in the *Herald of Truth*, which is an able and faithful exponent of Baptist faith and practice.

Resolved—2. That we will use every effort to extend the circulation of the *Herald of Truth* throughout the boundaries of our Association, and that we will not only give it our personal support, but, according to our ability, we will assume the subscription for papers to be regularly sent to Baptist families unable to pay for it.

The report was discussed by Brethren Henry, H. W. Read, Wright, Cole, Hull, White, Code, Abbott, Owens and Morse, and adopted. One hundred and sixty-five new subscribers for the *Herald of Truth* were then pledged by individuals present, and $95 to be appropriated to sending the paper to Baptist families unable to pay for it.

The following report from the Committee on Obituaries was adopted:

Your Committee on Obituaries report: That the membership of the churches of our Association has been diminished by death the past year as follows:

First Baptist Church, Stockton, 3; Second Baptist Church, Stockton, 1; Chinese Church, San Francisco, 1; First Baptist Church, San Francisco, 4; Santa Clara, 1; Sonora, 1; First Church, Oakland, 4; First Church, Brooklyn, 1.

And we are thus reminded that death comes both to the young and the old, gathering from us those who have, by toil, labor and endurance, shown their love for the dear Lord, and those who, in their youth, have but just entered into his service. By these lessons we are all admonished to be ready for the message that may call us away from the earthly, to the heavenly service. We must forbear an extended individual notice of all who have entered into their rest, but we cannot refrain from noting the following:

Deacon Minor King, of the Santa Clara Church, departed this life June 21, 1881, at the ripe age of 82 years. For sixty-one years he was a faithful mem-

ber of the Baptist Church, and died full of faith and of the Holy Ghost. His last words were, "I am going home, to die no more."

Deacon E. M. Flowers, of the Second Baptist Church, Stockton, an humble follower of our Lord, called from serving the church here, now rests from his labors.

Lee Wing Tai, of the Chinese Church, San Francisco, an humble earnest Christian, eminent among his own people for his earnest, efficient piety, died in February last rejoicing in the certain hope of a blissful resurrection.

John R. Davies, of the First Church, San Francisco, for many years an humble and consistent Christian, at the last weekly prayer meeting he attended, spoke most earnestly of his strong love for Christ and his church, and his readiness to depart and be with him.

Sister Heslip was one of the oldest members of the Brooklyn Church. She was most faithful in all her christian duties, an ardent and earnest worker in the church. In her last illness, which lasted during many weeks, and was accompanied with severe bodily suffering, she was sweetly resigned to the will of God. She died in full assurance of hope in Christ.

JNO. F. POPE, Chairman.

The Committee on Home Missions reported as follows:

At present your committee consider the work of Home Missions in California to be more important, and of more immediate urgency, than any other work committed to the churches. Our Lord, in sending laborers into the field of the world, directed them to begin at home; hence, this is both Scriptural and reasonable. Cultivate first our own field, then we shall have leisure and strength and additional co-operation to enter the foreign field of labor. We therefore, most earnestly urge our churches to contribute liberally to the support of the General Baptist Convention, to aid it largely to increase both its usefulness and efficiency. And also, we ask the Woman's Home Mission Society to render the Convention all the assistance possible in its work, during the ensuing year.

E. H. Gray.
R. C. White.
J. L. Lyon.

The Committee on Arrangements reported partially, recommending that the Association meet at 7 o'clock this evening, receive and act upon reports for three-quarters of an hour, and then listen to a sermon from Rev. W. M. Kincaid.

The recommendation was approved.

On motion of Brother Wright the following Resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be tendered to the *Stockton Daily Independent* for the very elaborate and correct report of the proceedings of the General Baptist Convention of California, and also of the Central Baptist Association.

The Association then adjourned to 7 P. M.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT.

After devotional services conducted by Rev. S. B. Morse, the Association was called to order by the Moderator.

The Committee on Time, Place and Preachers for the next Annual Meeting reported:

We recommend that we meet with the Calvary Church, Sacramento City. For Doctrinal Sermon, Rev. A. J. Sturtevant; alternate, Rev. C. L. Fisher; For Practical Sermon, Rev. W. T. Fleenor; alternate, Rev. M. D. Gage.

J. S. JESSE,
A. J. STURTEVANT.
BENJ. C. WRIGHT.

The report was adopted.

After discussion by Brethren Morse, J. F. Pope, Stockwell, Gilbert, Orcut, Gage, Abbott, Gray, Cole, Hull and H. W. Read, the Association adopted the following report on Sunday Schools:

In the judgment of your Committee there is *no work* connected with our churches so important as that of Sunday School work. We notice with pleasure from the letters and reports of churches, that there have been more conversions from our Sunday Schools the past year than for many years before. We believe that from the ranks of the Sunday Schools, mainly, we must look for material of increase in our churches. We recommend the following as a means of strength and profit to our Sunday Schools:

First. That all the churches take an active interest in this important field of labor; that, as far as possible, the membership of churches join in Bible classes or assist in teaching.

Second. Have and maintain somehow and at some time a teachers' meeting. It is probably safe to say that at present not one-half of our schools hold such a meeting.

Third. Let all the teachers be impressed with the importance of the personal and immediate salvation of the scholars, and teach to this end.

Fourth. Let the scholars be educated in giving to the great interests of our Redeemer's kingdom and the spread of the gospel in the world.

Too often, we fear, our Sunday Schools give their donations only to be used in their own schools, and for their own profit.

We express the hope, in conclusion, that it will not be long ere we have a Baptist Book Depository on this coast, where we may lay our hands on our own literature.

Your committee also recommend that the Sunday Schools of this Association send delegates to the State Sunday School Convention the ensuing year.

S. B. MORSE, Chairman.

The Association then listened to a sermon by Rev. Wm. M. Kincaid. Text: He could not be hid. Mark 7: 24. Theme, The Inconcealable Christ.

The sermon was followed by brief addresses from many, a most solemn season of prayer, and the singing of the following hymn:

CALIFORNIA FOR JESUS!

BY DR. A. L. COLE.

For use at the General Baptist Convention meeting at Stockton, Oct. 4, 1881.

The golden shore for Jesus!
  His banner all unfurled;
We'll fight until we conquer
  This vast, this Western world.
His people all united
  In one unbroken band,
Shall march along together
  O'er all this mighty land.

The work is now before us,
  The field is ripe for sheaves;
And shall we stand in silence,
  And gather naught but leaves?
Nay! now the Spirit speaketh;
  Right onward through the flood!
Ye heralds of salvation,
  Go with the living word.

Sow well the vale and mountain,
  And cast away all fears,
And water from the fountain
  Of never drying tears.
So shall you come rejoicing
  From labor, toil and pain,
In streaming ships all laden
  With God's own golden grain.

The Association then adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

THIRD DAY.

THURSDAY MORNING, October 6th.

The Association met, and, on motion, resolved to allow the time till 10 o'clock, to the Council invited by the Second Baptist Church of Stockton, to ordain Bro. Philip Peck to the Gospel Ministry, as their Pastor.

When the Association was called to order the report of the Committee on Foreign Missions was presented, and, after discussion by Brethren J. F. Pope, Hull, Hartwell, Coggswell, Gage, Cole, Abbott, Henry, Weil, Owens, Gilbert and Mrs. Howard, was adopted, as follows:

We deem it of primary importance in our denominational work on this coast, that the Missionary spirit should be cultivated in all our churches, not only in our own State work, and in active co-operation with the Home Mission Society, on its broad field, but also in the still broader field of the world, occupied by the American Baptist Missionary Union. We therefore recommend that the churches of this Association be urged to take annual collections for the treasury of the parent society, to organize auxiliaries of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, and to co-operate with those churches that have engaged in local Chinese Missions; and especially that the Superintendents of our Sunday Schools be urged to bring the subject of Missions before their schools, and encourage the children to make regular contributions to the cause.

M. D. GAGE,
J. B. HARTWELL,
J. P. COGGSWELL.

The report of the Committee on Education was presented by Rev. Dr. Abbott, and, after discussion by Brethren Abbott, Gray, White and Saxton, was adopted, as follows:

Resolved, That one of the immediate demands of the hour in California is the revival of the interest of our people in the Baptist Educational institutions of our State. We recognize with gratitude the continued existence and prosperity of Mrs. Perry's Female Seminary in Sacramento and pray for its enlarged patronage. We rejoice in the establishment at Healdsburg of the Healdsburg Young Ladies' Institute under the patronage and direction of Dr.

and Mrs. E. H. Gray, and the immediate instruction of Misses Carter and Heald, and are most happy to announce that this institute is thoroughly equipped, from the kindergarten to the highest department of modern languages, and bespeak for it the hearty support of all our people. We trust, moreover, that schools of higher learning for young men as well as young women may soon be established for continued and perpetual growth and power in our State.

On motion, a committee was appointed to nominate officers for the Baptist Chinese Missionary Society of California, proposed by the General Baptist Convention, viz: Brothers Gray, Blunt and Jesse.

The Committee on Chinese Missions presented their report, which was discussed by Brethren Hartwell, Abbott and Hull. A paper was read also from Mrs. J. R. Bradway, in regard to the Chinese school in connection with the First Baptist Church in Oakland. The report was adopted as follows;

Resolved, That we regard the coming of the Chinese to this country in large numbers as in the providence of God.

Resolved, That this Association is in hearty sympathy with all organizations and individuals devoted to the conversion of the Chinese, and it urges upon the churches the importance of the most active effort in this direction.

GEO. R. READ,
MRS. J. R. BRADWAY,
J. S. JESSE.

The Association then adjourned till 2 o'clock.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

The Association convened at 2 o'clock.

The Committee on Officers for the Baptist Chinese Missionary Society of California reported, nominating the following officers: For President, Rev. G. S. Abbott, D. D.; Vice-President, Rev. S. B. Morse; Corresponding Secretary, Rev. J. B. Hartwell, D.D.; Treasurer, H. Garthwaite, Esq. These nominations were unanimously confirmed, and the Society was organized with these officers and the following membership: G. S. Abbott, Mrs. B. R. Boynton, Mrs. G. J. Burchett, Mrs. J. R. Bradway, J. P. Coggs-

well, A. L. Cobb, Chas. Cobb, Miss Ella Dearborn, H. Garthwaite, E. H. Gray, D. D., J. B. Hartwell, Mrs. J. B. Hartwell, T. K. Hook, Mrs. T. K. Hook, Wm. M. Kincaid, Mrs. D. C. Mattison, Mrs. McKinnon, S. B. Morse, Mrs. S. B. Morse, B. W. Owens, E. R. Pope, C. R. Ralph, H. W. Read, Mrs. R. Shuey, T. J. Weil, D. K. Woodbridge—total, 26.

The Committee on Temperance made the following report, which, after discussion, was adopted:

We, members of Baptist churches, in session as the Central Baptist Association of California—

Resolve, That we do consider the liquor traffic in this State a great and growing evil, and that we will discourage the use of liquor as a beverage, and do pledge ourselves individually to do all in our power to assist in the enactment of such laws as shall prohibit the manufacture or use of liquor as a beverage within our borders; and we further agree to countenance and assist all prudent efforts made for the cause of temperance in our State; also that we most heartily recommend the enforcement of existing laws in relation to closing liquor saloons on the Sabbath day, and selling liquor to minors. We further urge upon parents at home and teachers in Sunday Schools, to bring this matter before the children. We heartily indorse the Women's Christian Temperance Union in their work.

On motion, a vote of thanks was passed to the members of the First Church, Stockton, and other friends, for their generous, hospitable entertainment extended to our delegates during our session.

On motion, the Clerks and Treasurers of the Association and General Baptist Convention were appointed a committee to have printed and to distribute the Minutes of the Association and Convention.

On motion, the Association adjourned, to meet with the Calvary Baptist Church, Sacramento, at o'clock, on Tuesday after the first Sunday in October, 1882.

Prayer by Rev. Dr. Gray.

W. T. FLEENOR, Moderator.

J. B. HARTWELL, Clerk.

STATISTICS OF CHURCHES, CENTRAL ASSOCIATION.

Churches.	Pastors.	Clerks.	Delegates.	Added by				Diminished by				Present Membership.
				Baptism	Letter	Experience	Restoration	Letter	Erasure	Exclusion	Death	
Alameda	Geo. R. Read	J. L. Caster	Rev. G. R. Read, Bro. N. W. Griswold, Sisters Griswold and Edson	4	13	....	....	6	1	....	....	41
Brooklyn	S. B. Morse	Geo. Griffiths	Rev. S. B. Morse, Bros. J. R. Mason and Robert Shuey, Sisters Shuey, Morse, S. B. Morse, Warner, Rodrick, Pratt and Drucker	25	10	1	....	5	....	....	1	121
Ceres	M. D. Gage	C. N. Whitmore	Bros. Woodbridge, Wastes, Whitmore, Wallace, Sister Woodbridge	....	2	....	....	....	....	1	....	8
Gilroy	(No Pastor)	Mrs. I. J. Howard	Mrs. I. J. Howard	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	7
Modesto	M. D. Gage	W. O. Hardin	Rev. M. D. Gage, Sisters Gage, Ross, Stiles, Mull	5	5	4	....	3	....	7	....	36
Oakland, First	G. S. Abbott	H. Garthwaite	Rev. G. S. Abbott, Bros. Cogswell, Baker, Lyon, Sisters Cogswell, Bradway, Dearborn, Hoyt, Tabor	44	29	8	....	5	....	....	4	314
Oakland, Trinity	George Guirey	A. L. Thompson	J. M. Fowler	8	11	7	....	....	....	....	....	79
Penryn	J. S. Jesse	H. H. Hart	Deas. Browning, Howell and Hart	1	1	....	....	....	....	....	....	21
Sacramento, Calvary	J. Q. A. Henry	L. F. Fredrick	Rev. J. Q. A. Henry, Bros. Strong, Parker, Fredrick, Yantis, Kerlin, Sisters Strong, Wallace, Buser and Kerlin	5	7	3	....	5	12	1	....	140
San Francisco, Chinese	J. B. Hartwell	Wong Yu Hau	Rev. J. B. Hartwell, Bros. Lo Ping Kee and Lee Fan Mun	3	2	....	....	....	....	....	1	12

San Francisco, First	W. M. Kincaid	J. H. Crouch	Rev. W. M. Kincaid, Deas. Blunt, Owens, Bros. J. F. Pope, Wright, Heath, Baker, Hull, Drumm and E. R. Pope, Sisters Wright, Huddleston, McKinnon, Conant, Heath, Boynton, Pope, Redell, Barnes, Blunt, Noble and Smith	37	22	7	....	17	....	4	4	331
San Francisco, Fifth	C. W. Hewes	Geo. Merguire	Rev. C. W. Hewes, Bros. Code, Merguire, Levensaler and Hinton	11	10	4	....	....	....	....	....	107
Santa Clara	C. L. Fisher	E. Burrell	Rev. C. L. Fisher, Bros. Burrell, Glendenning, Sister Fisher	5	6	2	....	1	1	....	1	64
Sonora	A. J Sturtevant	John Ramous	Rev. A. J. Sturtevant	3	1	1	....	1	....	....	1	63
Stockton, First	W. T. Fleenor	B. P. Baird	Rev. W. T. Fleenor, Bros. Stockwell, Rowe, Cobb, Dorr, Hook, Sisters Ralph, Fleenor, Buell, Hook	12	13	4	....	4	25	2	2	207
Stockton, Second	Philip H. Peck	E. M. Quivers	Rev. Philip H. Peck, Bros. Barrett, Dawson	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	10
Virginia City, Nevada	H. W. Read	Saml. E. Reid	Rev. H. W. Read	4	2	....	....	3	....	....	....	38
Wheatland	J. S. Jesse	B. F. Dam	Rev. J. S. Jesse, Bros. Tindell, King	1	5	5	....	2	....	....	....	25
Total				168	139	46	....	52	39	15	14	1634

Total gain during year 353
Total loss during year 120

Net gain during year 233

We are unable to tabulate Sunday School and Financial Statistics, owing to meagreness of reports from Churches.

J. B. HARTWELL,
J. Q. A. HENRY, } Committee.
E. R. POPE,

DIGEST OF LETTERS.

ALAMEDA.—Every reason for thankfulness to God. Have met all expenses and paid a small portion of debt incurred in building Church. No unusual interest at present. Lack of spiritual growth due to our own inaction and negligence.

BROOKLYN, FIRST.—Many have been baptized during the year. Congregations good; prayer meetings greatly increased in number and interest. Two Sunday Schools, white and Chinese, are prosperous. Something done for benevolent societies during the year. Sunday School has contributed in birthday jug over $50 for foreign missions.

CERES.—Are advancing gradually. Need more pastoral labor. Have meetings regularly.

MODESTO, FIRST.—Greets the Association. We believe the present movement is a step in the direction of harmony and success for our denomination in California.

OAKLAND, FIRST.—Increasing numerically, materially and spiritually; peace and good will abound; general outlook never better; church life greatly blessed; large additions. Two Sunday Schools, white and Chinese, in prosperous condition. Church work for benevolences carried on by Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Mission Circles, the Young Ladies Missionary Band, the Boys' and Girls' Mission Band, the Oakland City Mission Band, etc. Financially; still burdened with $10,000 mortgage. Income sufficient to meet all current expenses, if promptly paid.

OAKLAND, TRINITY.—Greatly blessed. Are united and free from debt, and monthly receipts steadily increasing.

PENRYN.—Requests admission. Interesting Sunday School and Bible Class. Preaching once a month. Praying for revival.

SACRAMENTO, CALVARY.—Past year one of great trial. October, 1880, Rev. Jay W. Osborn came as pastoral supply, but was obliged to resign from ill-health shortly after. Without a pastor till April, 1881—when Rev. J. Q. A. Henry accepted our call, we were disheartened and scattered. Outlook now more encouraging. Sunday School well sustained and attendance good.

SAN FRANCISCO, CHINESE.—A Mission Church in connection with the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Mission commenced November, 1879. Church organized with eight members, October 3d, 1880, and duly recognized by Council. Night school with average attendance of about sixty. Preaching services, Sunday School and prayer meeting regularly maintained. Benevolent contributions of the Church about $200.

San Francisco, First.—Calls attention to the fact that it inaugurated the first Association in California, September, 1850, and remained in active connection with the same till October, 1877. Rev. E. B. Hulbert resigned the pastorate in December, 1877, and was succeeded by Rev. G. S. Abbott, who resigned in December, 1878. From that time till March, 1881, the pulpit was supplied by Rev. Dr. Gray, Rev. Dr. Hartwell, Rev. J. Q. A. Henry and others. Revival during Mr. Henry's ministrations in connection with Moody and Sankey meetings. Rev. W. M. Kincaid became our pastor March 27, 1881. Eleven baptized by him during first six months. Congregations increasing; the membership well organized for work and hopeful. Devotional meetings largely attended. Sunday School is increasing and larger than for some years. The only drawback is heavy mortgage debt incurred in building Church in 1876.

San Francisco, Fifth.—Congregations good and Church constantly increasing. Revival during the winter. Sunday School prosperous. Church refitted, organ purchased and addition made to Church building during year. Church interested in the missionary enterprises of the denomination.

Santa Clara.—Requests admission. Small progress. Protracted meetings held last winter did much good. Sabbath School prosperous.

Sonora —Prospered during past year; great reason for thanksgiving. Have built and paid for neat vestry. Revival last winter and some souls saved.

Stockton, First.—Our former pastor, Rev. F. N. Barlow, resigned August, 1880, on account of ill-health. Fifty-one were added to the Church during his pastorate. In December, 1880, Rev. W. T. Fleenor took charge of the Church, and shortly after became our pastor. We are progressing and making good record. Property clear of incumbrance. Roll of membership reduced by dropping names of absentees.

Stockton, Second.—Present Brother Philip H. Peck for ordination. Sunday School successfully carried on. Church, though small, is in good condition

Virginia City, Nev.—Have suffered by removal of many members. In full sympathy with new Convention. In favor of maintaining wider circulation of denominational literature and the Herald of Truth.

Wheatland.—Letter requests admission to Association and sends statistics.